FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

17 JUNE 1983

Lebanon

Political Developments — The Lebanese Government is "not in a hurry" to ratify the agreement with Israel as long as Israel links its withdrawal to a Syrian withdrawal — an issue which Damascus refuses to discuss, Voice of Lebanon radio reported citing diplomatic sources in Beirut. Lebanon is awaiting the "crystallization of certain stands" related to contacts underway between Tel Aviv and Washington, on the one hand, and to possible contacts between the United States and Syria, on the other, the sources added. Earlier, a commentary by Damascus radio said Syria has already declared its opinion of Lebanon's "agreement of submission" and this view is not open to compromise. However, Syria is ready to acquaint anyone with its views and "does not fear discussion," the commentary added. In an interview to be published in the 18 June issue of the weekly magazine *Al-Mahallah*, President Amin al-Jumayyil denied that Lebanon had been officially notified of Syria's rejection of the agreement and expressed hope that Syria will not hamper its implementation, MENA and SPA reported. The agreement does not conflict with Lebanon's membership in the Arab League or its duties toward the joint defense pact, Al-Jumayyil said.

In another development, "political sources" in Jerusalem said that without significant expansion of the multinational force (MNF) IDF redeployment in Lebanon would be impossible to implement, the Tel Aviv daily *Ha'aretz* reported. Adding that contacts for an expanded force have recently begun, the paper said "official elements" in Romania have announced the that they are considering joining the MNF.

Military, Security situation — At least 17 people were killed in Tripoli by indiscriminate gunfire from a passing car, Voice of Lebanon radio reported. 'Alawaite sources in the city said they carried out the shootings in retaliation for the earlier killing of 'Alawaite officials, according to another radio report.

In another development, Jerusalem radio said the curfew imposed on the village of Dayr Qanun following an ambush of Israeli soldiers was lifted 4 days ago but the IDF continues to block entry into the community. Meanwhile, the IDF commander in the Tyre area said the only way to end "terrorist" operations against the Israeli Army is to isolate southern Lebanon completely, Beirut and Jerusalem radios reported.

PLO Affairs

The September Martyrs' Brigade, which belongs to the Al-'Asifah forces, has joined the Fatah dissidents, Radio Monte Carlo reported citing a spokesman for the dissident movement. Earlier, Fatah dissident leader Colonel Sa'id Musa, in an interview with the weekly *AL-Hawadith*, said he represents a "protest movement" that rejects the labels dissident or mutinous because it stems from "nothing more" than a conflict of views on certain political issues which should be clarified. He said their stand opposes the Fes and the Reagan plans, because they liquidate the Palestinian people's cause and deny their right to set up their own state. The protest movement, Sa'id Musa said, was triggered by attempts to form a Jordanian-Palestinian joint delegation to hold negotiations, with the Reagan plan as the basis for dialogue. There is no objection to a confederation with Jordan or any other regime acceptable to the Palestinian people, he said, once they have their own state and legislative institutions. However, to embark on a confederation before there is a Palestinian state would mean giving up the symbol of the continuation of the struggle. The protest movement's objective is to prevent the violation of the Palestinian political program or any departure from its specified principles. Sa'id Musa said the movement expects the Palestinian leadership to provide an opportunity for "democratic dialogue" within the framework of a general congress and stressed that the protestors will abide by its decisions out of eagerness to preserve Fatah unity.

Iraq - Syria

The Soviet leadership has begun "intensive" contacts with Iraq and Syria aimed at reconciling them, the Amman weekly *Akhbar Al-Usbu'* reported citing diplomatic sources in Damascus. Both countries reacted positively to the Soviet effort, the sources added.

Maghreb Affairs

Libya has "discharged" its duty in full concerning the Western Sahara issue, Libya leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi said in a statement according to JANA. Now that the OAU is "responsible" for tackling the issue and since relations between Morocco and Algeria have been restored, Libya declares that there has not been a Moroccan-Libyan problem or difference, Col al-Qadhdhafi said.

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Bangladesh, India Joint Commission Meets
GF161038 Dubayy Khaleej Times in English 16 Jun 83 p 22

[By Hassan Shahriar]

[Text] Dhaka — Bangladesh and India signed two agreements yesterday at the end of a two-day meeting of the standing committee of the joint economic commission.

One agreement provides for a government-to-government credit of 200 million Indian rupees. This will cover the import of Indian machinery and capital goods for projects in the Bangladesh public sector.

The second agreement provides for cooperation in agriculture research between the Bangladesh agricultural research council and the Indian council of agricultural research.

The terms of another commercial credit from the export-import bank of India for 400 million Indian rupees were also finalised. A formal agreement will be signed later.

The standing committee also reviewed progress made in other fields of cooperation since the last meeting in November of the joint economic commission. It was once again agreed that India would buy more goods from Bangladesh to narrow the trade gap between the two countries. In 1981-82 the gap was 640 million Indian rupees.

Leaders of the two delegations, K.S. Bajpai, secretary in the Indian Ministry of External Affairs, and Mafizur Rahman, secretary, external resources division of Bangladesh, told newsmen that officials of the ministries of commerce would remain in constant touch and would periodically review trade imbalances.

The meeting also covered in detail the possibility of setting up joint venture industries. The two sides agreed to conduct feasibility studies on setting up a sponge iron factory, a cement factory and rehabilitating sugar mills in Bangladesh.

Afghan-Pakistan Geneva Talks Off To Poor Start
NC161735 Paris AFP in English 1722 GMT 16 Jun 83

[Text] Geneva, June 16 (AFP) — Renewed indirect talks between Pakistan and Afghanistan under United Nations auspices got off to a poor start here today, observers noted.

They said the prevailing mood contrasted with that on April 22, at the close of the previous round. The talks are aimed at securing the withdrawal of Soviet forces from Afghanistan and resolving the refugee problem caused by the war there.

"There are no breakthroughs on the horizon, nor should they be sought," Pakistani Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Ali Khan said on arrival at the Palace of Nations here. "Nothing could be less useful than an attempt to reach a quick fix," he told journalists.

"We should not make use of the words 'optimistic' and 'pessimistic'," in relation to the talks, Mr Ali Khan said.

Afghan delegation chief Foreign Minister Shah Mohammad Dost, after an initial meeting with Mr Cordovez that lasted less than half an hour, said he had "some hopes for a positive result", and was approaching the talks in a "faithful spirit."

The current round of talks ends next Wednesday, a Pakistan delegate said.

Hopes for Progress Expressed
BK161545 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 16 Jun 83

[Text] The third round of UN-sponsored indirect talks to seek a political solution to the Afghanistan issue began in Geneva today. The talks are being resumed after an 8-week interval. The UN secretary general's personal representative on the Afhanistan issue, Diego Cordovez, had a meeting with the Karmal administration delegation leader, Shah Mohammad Dost, this morning. Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, who is leading the Pakistan delegation, is due to meet Cordovez this afternoon.

According to a UN spokesman, the new round of talks are expected to last about 1 week, Although no date has been fixed for the conclusion of this round of talks. The delegations attending the talks have before them the draft of an agreement that includes the program for withdrawal of foreign troops from Afghanistan, creation of a situation conducive to the voluntary return of Afghan refugees to their homes and UN guarantees for noninterference from other countries. Cordovez told newsmen prior to his departure from New York for Geneva for the fresh round of talks that he hopes for further progress at the talks. However, he added that the international political situation is not congenial for an agreement.

Early Settlement Discounted
BK170153 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 16 Jun 83

[Text] The third round of the United Nations-sponsored indirect talks on Afghanistan was resumed in Geneva today after an 8-week recess. The foreign minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, and the foreign minister of the Karmal regime, Mr Shah Mohammad Dost, had separate meetings with the UN secretary general's personal representative on Afghanistan, Mr Diego Cordovez. The Kabul side met the UN intermediary for about 45 minutes while the Pakistan delegation remained with him for about an hour. According to informed sources, the meeting mostly related to preliminaries.

A spokesman for the Pakistan delegation later said Sahabzada Yaqub Khan briefed Mr Cordovez about the salient features of his recent visits to the capitals of the five permanent members of the Security Council and Saudi Arabia, which is the current chairman of the Islamic Conference Organization. He told the United Nations intermediary that all these governments told him that they supported the United Nations process to seek a comprehesive political solution of the problem. Sahabzada

Yaqub Khan also told Mr Cordovez that it was important to tackle, in the current discussions, the important issues involved. These were: The timeframe for troops withdrawal, guarantees of noninterference and nonintervention, and consultation machinery for the Afghan refugees.

In his (?press) talks before going into the the conference, the Pakistan foreign minister said the progress so far made provided substance for the hope that the progress would continue to be made. If the parties displayed similar attitude to the Geneva process, we shall be able to gradually and steadily make progress. He said Pakistan will adopt a constructive and sincere approach to tackle the issues which remain to be settled. asked if an early settlement was in sight, the foreign minister said there are no breakthroughs on the horizon. In conclusion, he said he was looking forward to a steady and solid progress during the current talks.

Earlier, Mr Cordovez said neither that he knew how long the Geneva process would continue nor about the duration of the current negotiations. However, informed sources said the current negotiations were expected to last till the next weekend.

Talking to newsmen the foreign minister of the Karmal regime, Mr Shah Mohammad Dost, said his delegation had come to Geneva in good faith and goodwill.

Defense Minister Lauds Army Heroism in Paktika

LD162011 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 16 Jun 83

[Text] Warm greetings and good wishes from Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA revolutionary Council, were conveyed today by Lieutenant General 'Abdol Qader, candidate member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and minister of national defense, at a gathering of the troops, officers and non-commissioned officers of Commando Brigade 38 in Sharan, the provincial capital of Paktika Province.

In a detailed speech, he drew their attention to their vastly important tasks and recalled with appreciation the heroism and self-sacrifice of the staff of the this brigade.

The minister of national defense also took part in a grand meeting of the party primary organization and distributed PDPA membership cards to a number of individuals.

At the meeting a number of participants expressed their readiness for self-sacrifice in the defense of the gains of the April revolution, particularly in its new development stage.

Delegation Departs for Prague Peace Conference

LD162006 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 16 Jun 83

[Text] Anahita Ratebzad, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and president of the DRA peace, solidarity and friendship organization, is heading an Afghan delegation that left this morning for the CSSR to take part in the World Assembly for Peace and Life, Against Nuclear War.

She was seen off at Kabul airport by Mohammad Aslam Watanjar, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and minister of communications; Khalil Ahmad Abawi, deputy chairman of the Council of ministers and chairman of the State Planning Committee; Sayyed Kram Faysir, candidate member of the PDPA Central Committee; Sakhi Daneshjo, assistant in the Munistry of Foreign Affairs; a number of members of social organizations; and the CSSR ambassador in Kabul.

National Fatherland Front Central Council Plenum

Proceedings Reported

LD161133 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 15 Jun 83

[Excerpts] The Third Plenum of the National Fatherland Front [NFF] Central Council was convened this morning in the Central Council Hall. The plenum was attended by Saleh Mohammad Ziray and Nur Ahmad Nur, Politburo members and PDPA Central Committee secretaries; Anahita Ratebzad, PDPA Central Committee Politburo member and DWOA chairman; members of the PDPA Central Committee members; NFF Central Council members; and chairman and vice chairmen of the NFF provincial and city councils.

The BAKHTAR correspondent reports that the plenum's work began with the recitation of a few verses from the holy Koran and the playing of the DRA national anthem. The plenum was chaired by Saleh Mohammad Ziray, chairman of the executive board of the NFF Central Council Executive Board. The plenum's agenda, which deals with the NFF Central Council Executive Board's report and organizational issues, was read.

At the outset of the session Nur Ahmad Nur read the PDPA Central Committee's message on the occasion of the second anniversary of the DRA NFF and third plenum of its Central Council. The message was warmly welcomed by those attending the plenum.

The BAKHTAR correspondent reports that Saleh Mohammad Ziray then read the NFF Central Council Executive Board's report and congratulated those attending the plenum on the second anniversary of the NFF — the political and social organization of the masses of our beloved revolutionary Afghanistan — on behalf of the NFF Central Council, the NFF social organizations, and all people of Afghanistan.

The Executive Board report explains the accomplishments of the various sections of the NFF Central Council departments regarding the resolutions of the second NFF Central Council plenum and the PDPA'S resolutions, decisions, and decrees in the interim period between the two plenums. The report asks those attending the plenum to further perceive and profoundly evaluate their missions, duties and responsibilities in parallel with the evolution of the country's revolutionary processes; fulfill their role in achieving prosperity for all; and prepare ground for the construction of just and democratic society in free, independent, heroic, and revolutionary Afghanistan.

In its report the NFF Central Council Executive Board expresses its full support for the Revolutionary Council Presidium's decree of amnesty for those of our compatriots who --either unwittingly or by force -- have fallen prey to the propaganda of the enemies of the revolution and once again asks all those who have been deceived to resume their honorable human life by returning to the bosom of the homeland, not become an instrument of the debased despotics and oppressors, and serve their homeland and people.

In the second part of the plenum work Bareq Shafi'i, NFF Central Council first vice chairman, made proposals on organizational issues of the front and on the distribution of membership cards to individual NFF members. These proposals were unanimously approved by those attending the plenum. According to these proposals the number of NFF Central Council members is increased and another 20 persons were elected as new members of the NFF Central Council.

At the end of the plenum, the draft resolution of the Third NFF Central Council Plenum and messages addressed to our toiling compatriots and to the World Assembly for Peace and Life, Against Nuclear War, which will be held in Prague, were unanimously approved.

In conclusion Saleh Mohammad Ziray evaluated the work of the Third NFF Central Council Plenum as positive and asked those

attending the plenum to put the decisions and resolutions of this glorious plenum into practice with revolutionary spirit.

The BAKHTAR correspondent reports that the end of the plenum's work the participants in the plenum went to the Hill of Martyrs and laid wreaths on the tombs of the heroes of the revolution's path who lost their beloved lives in defense of the April revolution's lofty objectives.

Counterrevolutionary Elements Scored

LD160904 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0433 GMT 16 Jun 83

[Text] Kabul, June 15, BAKHTAR — The participants of the Third Plenum of the Central Council of the NFF of the DRA in a message addressed to Afghan people state that the counter-revolutionary elements who were being despatched from Pakistan and Iran to the DRA for fratricide and subversion are the lackeys of the same great devil (the U.S. imperialism) which is shedding the blood of Moslems in the Arab world and elsewhere.

The National Fatherland Front, said the message, wants the establishment of peace and security, brotherhood, social justice and a dignified life for the people in line with the humane policies of the party and the revolutionary state.

Briefs

Soviet Equipment Contract— A contract for the delivery of equipment for expanding the Jangalak enterprise totaling more than 6 million rubles was concluded today between the Ministry of Mines and Industries and the economic consulate of the USSR Embassy in Kabul. The contract was signed and exchanged by a representative from the Ministry of Mines and Industries and an economic representative from the USSR Embassy in the presence of Mohammad Esma'il Danesh, candidate member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and minister of mines and industries, and the deputy head of the economic consulate of the USSR Embassy in Kabul. [Text] [Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 16 Jun 83 LD]

U.S. Ambassador's Remarks on Khalistan Protested

BK161610 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 16 Jun 83

[Text] Four members of parliament have strongly criticized the statement of the U.S. ambassador in India on the demand for Khalistan. In a joint press release issued in New Delhi today, they said that Mr Harry Barnes has been indiscreet and guilty of serious lapse as the statement amounts to an interference in the internal affairs of this country. They said the statement has also created an impression that the U.S. Administration now puts its seal of approval to the support being given from that country to the secessionist activities. The MP's have called upon the government to take all precautions to frustrate machinations of foreign powers to destabilize the country.

The signatories to the joint statement are Mr Eduardo Faleiro, Mrs Gita Mukherjee, Mr Satyasadhan Chakraborty, and Mr Ashfaque Hussain.

A demonstration was held by the Delhi Pradesh [state] Congress Committee-I [DPCC-I] and the Delhi Pradesh State Youth Congress-I [DPYC-I] in front of the American Embassy in New Delhi. The demonstrators were protesting against the American ambassador, Mr Harry Barnes' statement equating the Khalistan movement with the Puerto Rican demand for freedom. In a memorandum submitted jointly by the president of the DPYC-I, (Brahma Yadev), and the general secretary of the DPCC-I, Mr Jagdish Taitler, the demonstrators demanded a public apology from the ambassador for the menacing and uncalled for statement. The memorandum pointed out that the Khalistan demand cannot be compared with the Puerto Rico demand for independence from the colonial bondage of the United States. It was also pointed out that the nonaligned movement has constantly extended its support to this struggle.

About 3,000 demonstrators, including Mr (Yadev) and Mr Taitler were detained by the police and were subsequently released.

In the Delhi Metropolitan Council, the matter came up in the form of a 1-hour discussion. Members strongly criticized the ambassador's statement and said it amounted to encouraging and supporting separatist elements in our country.

Punjab Sikhs Plan Railroad Blockade Protest

Train Service Canceled

BK161244 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 16 Jun 83

[Text] There is to be no train movement in Punjab tomorrow between 0600 and 1800. All long-distance trains bound for destinations in and around Punjab tomorrow will be terminated at Delhi or New Delhi, Ambala and Saharanpur. All local trains in Punjab area and those coming from outside into the state will also be suitably regulated. Passengers will be provided onward travel facilities by the first available trains after the resumption of train services.

The government has taken the decision in view of the rail blockade agitation tomorrow for which a call has given by the Akali Dal. An official statement announced in New Delhi says that the decision has been taken in the larger interest of the safety and security of the passengers and national property. It says that the government had been hoping that the call given by the Akali Dal will be called off, particularly when efforts are continuing to resume negotiations. The government expected that the Akali Dal would spare any hardship and inconvenience to the general public. However, the government says, its repeated requests to the Akalai Dal have had no response.

Punjab Cancels Bus Service

BK170651 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 17 Jun 83

[Excerpts] The suspension of rail and road traffic in Punjab following the Akali Dal's rail blockade agitation has caused great inconvenience to the traveling public. Our correspondents who met a cross section of people at Chandigarh and New Delhi railway stations reports that the agitation has upset the work schedule of many. It is a day of missed appointments and frustration. Our Chandigarh correspondent says that all the affected people voiced resentment against the agitation and exp. sed deep concern over the economic loss involved. Many people who were to visit their ailing parents and relatives were held back. A team of All India Radio correspondents who visited Delhi and New Delhi stations report that the railways have opened special counters for the refund of fares to passengers for their untraveled portions.

The center has advised the Punjab government to make all arrangements to protect railway property, maintain law and order, and take the strictest possible action against those indulging in violence, vandalism and arson. The Punjab government has ordered the cancellation of all passenger bus services in the state as a precautionary step. The buses will not operate from 0800 this morning till 1700 in the evening.

The Punjab chief minister, Mr Darbara Singh, has said that the government is committed to maintain peace and security in the state. In a statement in Chandigarh, he said the decision to cancel bus services has been taken because the government does not want the Akalis to have any excuse to resort to violence and create trouble. He reiterated that the state administration is keen on finding an early and peaceful solution to the Punjab problem.

Police Deployments Reported

BK161630 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 16 Jun 83

[Excerpts] There will be no movement of trains within Punjab between 0600 and 1800 tomorrow. Announcing this in New Delhi this evening, a spokesman of the Home Ministry told newsmen that the decision has been taken in the interest of the safety of passengers and security of national property in view of the Akali Dal's call for rail blockade.

Regretting the inconvenience to the traveling public, the

spokesman said government had to take this course in the larger interest of their safety. The government was hoping that the Akali Dal would call off their Rail roko [rail blockade] agitation, especially because efforts were continuing to resume negotiations. Calls for such agitation lead to hardship and inconvenience to the public. It was unfortunate that repeated requests have drawn no response from the Akali Dal.

The spokesman said the government was receiving reports of large-scale preparations not only to stop train movement, but also of possible efforts to damage railway property and create inconvenience to the traveling public. He said that when the Akali Dal gave a call last time for rail blockade, the agitators had turned violent, resulting in a loss of life and property. This was despite the Akali Dal's assurances that the volunteers would be nonviolent. The spokesman voiced government's hope that the sponsors of the movement will see reason and ensure that nothing is done which may affect national property or peace and tranquillity in Punjab.

The center has advised the Punjab government to make full arrangements to protect railway property, maintain law and order and take the strictest possible action against those who indulge in violence, vandalism, or arson.

Replying to questions, a spokesman of the Railway Board said the decision to regulate train services tomorrow will affect about 35 pairs of long distance trains. About 40 local trains will also not run. He estimated that each train carries 700 passengers. About 15 pairs of goods trains will also be affected.

The Punjab government has made elaborate arrangements to protect railway property and maintain law and order in the state. Units of police, the Border Security Force and the Central Reserve Police Force have been deployed at strategic places along the railway line and also in sensitive areas in the state. An official spokesman said in Chandigarh that as a precautionary measure, 350 Akali Dal workers and antisocial elements have been arrested so far. The state government has ordered the cancellation of passenger buses tomorrow throughout the state. The buses will not operate from 0800 in the morning to 1700 in the evening.

The Pradesh [state] Congress-I president, Hansraj Sharma, has expressed the hope that the people of the state will dissociate themselves from the Akali rail roko agitation.

Railway Blockade Begins

BK170918 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 17 Jun 83

[Text] Despite Akali Dal leader Sant Harchand Singh Longowal's instructions to the party workers not to squat on railway lines for blocking railway traffic, reports reaching Delhi from All India Radio [AIR] correspondents and agencies say that the Akali Dal volunteers are squatting on the railway tracks at various places. PRESS TRUST OF INDIA says that Akali volunteers were squatting on railway tracks in Ludhiana, Khanna, Adampur, Banga, (Bababakala) and Butari. Northern railway headquarters also speak of squatting on the railway tracks in some places in Ferozepur Division. Nuts and bolts of some fishplates were found removed on the Ropar-(Korari) railway track near Lakhimpur in Ropar District. At some places, the railway tracks have been blocked by wooden logs and boulders. Telephone and signal wires at certain places were also snapped by the agitators. In Ludhiana, over 50 Akali volunteers were taken into custody yesterday by the police. Six Central Reserve Police companies and twenty police companies have been deployed all over the district to prevent any untoward incidents.

AIR correspondent who went round several areas of Ludhiana, report that the passengers are left to use only private bus services and taxis. Most of them complained that the rail roko agitation caused hardship to passengers and the bus operators and taxis charged exhorbitant rates. The railway authorities in Punjab have made adequate arrangements to refund fares for those who had booked seats and now wanted a refund. Arrangements have also been made for the stay and food of stranded passengers. In Jullundur alone, about 2,500 passengers have been left stranded at the railway station because of the rail roko agitation. A spokesman of the Jullundur District told an AIR special correspondent that the situation remains completely peaceful and no report of untoward incidents has come. He added, there has not been any attempt to block the railway track or the road.

According to a post and telegraph spokesman, the delivery of mail in Jullundur and adjacent areas has been considerably affected because of the agitation. Local trade and business also is reported to be in a low key. The Akali Dal president Sant Harchand Singh Longowal has described the government action canceling the trains as wise.

Akali Dal Calls Off Blockade

BK170256 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 17 Jun 83

[Text] A report just received from Chandigarh says that the Akali Dal chief, Sant Harchand Singh Longowal, addressing a congregation of party volunteers in Amritsar, has asked them not to block the railway lines in view of the govenrment's decision to suspend the traffic.

Sikh Leaders Claim Victory

BK170801 Hong Kong AFP in English 0738 GMT 17 Jun 83

[By Ravi Velloor]

[Excerpts] Chandigarh, India, June 17 (AFP) — Sikh leaders claimed victory and called off their planned six-hour "block the railways" strike today after the federal government suspended rail and bus transport through their north western state of Punjab. Sikh Akali Dal Party President Harchand Singh Longowal described the government decision as "wise" and said it amounted to a victory for his party, the PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) agency said. He said he had also instructed all party district chiefs and prominent leaders not to proceed with the "block the railways" plan. Volunteers had been asked to move away from rail tracks.

The Sikhs had planned to sit-down on rail lines through the state today to press political and religious demands. The UNITED NEWS OF INDIA (UNI) agency however reported that despite the withdrawal orders, stray incidents of causing damage to rail property were reported across the state. There were no firm estimates of damage but telephone cables along rail tracks were found cut in some areas and in Bhatinda District fish plates had been removed at a few spots.

First reports here said stray knots of Sikh volunteers had come out of Sikh temples across Punjab and had begun squatting on the tracks this morning and more were expected later.

Punjab's leading newspaper, the *Tribune*, called the federal decision an "act of practical wisdom." In a front page editorial today, it said the government need have no regrets over its decision and the public should appreciate the motives behind it. However, it noted: "This does not mean approval of the Akali programme which is unreasonable and provocative and is an open challenge to the government."

The Indian Government has moved in 25,000 para-military troops into troubled Punjab and has said Border Security Forces stationed along the India-Pakistan frontier would be available to the state government on call. The *Indian Express* newspaper said 20 air force helicopters would watch over rail tracks and government installations from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The Punjab government had cracked down on the Akalis, arresting some 450 middle-rank leaders by last night, but most of the senior party men were either in hiding or holed up in Sikh temples which police do not normally enter. More arrests were reported today. Police in Ludhiana town detained two Akalis after several armed workers threw gasoline bombs at a police patrol from the shelter of a Sikh temple. Twenty Akalis were also detained in Gurdaspur District for breaching the peace.

Indira Gandhi Arrives in Austria on 3-Day Visit

For reportage on Prime Minister Indira Ganghi's arrival and subsequent activities during her 3-day stay in Austria, see the Austria section of the 17 June Western Europe *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique No 1348

LD161732 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 16 Jun 83

[Communique No 1348 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In his exalted name. The efforts of the forces of Islam, aimed at crushing and destroying the Saddamist forces, were continuing yesterday in the southern operational zone. Our patrol groups penetrated the enemy positions in several points and dealt effective blows at the enemy. Our combatants also opened fire on the enemy's supply points and motorized columns. On some fronts the enemy, under the cover of support fire, tried to move but its activities were stopped by heavy weapon fire. Furthermore, as a result of our fire power superiority, the enemy's active artillery was silenced.

Yesterday in the western operational zone the strong combatants of Islam brought the enemy's tank and infantry positions and observation posts under fire, inflicting losses and casualties on the Iraqi servicemen and disrupting the enemy's ground operations along contact lines.

At 1010 this morning two enemy aircraft bombed three villages in the vicinity of Piranshah [in Kurdistan]. As a result 2 civilian inhabitants were martyred and 14 others wounded and some losses were also sustained.

Yesterday the fire of air defense units and tactical measures of the fighter aicraft of the Air Force of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran foiled the enemies' air aggression against the southern and western areas of the country and robbed them of any opportunity to carry out any measures.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Iraqi POW's, Revolutionary Guards Clash in Sari

GF161447 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 16 Jun 83

[Text] According to the nationalist sources in Iran, on 5 June in Sari city they witnessed events that shook up the Islamic Republic of Iran. On this day armed officials of the regime tried to make the Iraqi POW's interned at Sari join the celebration processions in the Bazaars. There was a strong resistance from the prisoners of war and as result of a clash between the POW's and the regime officals, POW's succeeded in disarming the Revolution Guards. In these clashes a total of 80 persons were killed. The clash took place between 0900 and 1400.

We remind listeners that before this incident the International Red Cross had charged the regime with mistreating POW's and forcing them to join show processions for the benefit of the regime.

Islamic Fighters Attack Counterrevolutionaries

LD161646 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0742 GMT 16 Jun 83

[Text] With the start of the holy month of Ramadan, the combatants of Islam stationed in Kordestan commenced an extensive operation under the headquarters command of Hamzeh Seyyed Ash-Shohada, peace be upon him. The powerful forces of Islam, comprising brave armed forces personnel, the guards, and Mobilization Head Quarters saga-makers, gendarmerie self-sacrificing personnel, tribesmen, and Muslim Kurdish peshmergas during their successful operation cleansed eight villages on the Mahabad-Bukan axis of the filthy imperialist and Zionist mercenaries. Among the special features of the operation were the considerable losses and casualties inflicted on the apostate U.S. and Soviet minigroups. According to a statement by the Hamzeh Seyyrd ash-Shohada Headquarters, 100 evil and criminal members of the defunct Kurdish Democratic Party and Komeleh minigroups were killed or wounded. In addition to that, considerable quantities of light and heavy weapons and vehicles of the counterrevolutionaries were destroyed or were caputed intact by the combatants of the Islamic Republic.

During the recent successful operations of the pagan-fighters of Islam, a jail of the Mohareb minigroups was also discovered in which tools and equipment for torturing prisoners were found. This, too, testifies to the inhuman nature of the enemies of the Islamic revolutionand the Muslim Kurdish people.

We warn the deceived members of the mercenary minigroups of the East and the West in Kordestan that as our nation was able to throw out the Zionist regime of Iraq out of our Islamic homeland, in spite of its ungrudging support from the world devourers, by relying on God it can uproot their evil and corrupt mercenaries in dear Kordestan.

What is preventing the Islamic republic from taking decisive and crushing measures against with the minigroups and what is urging it to act cautiously is that those deceived and ignorant members of the minigroups can use the opportunity being given them to learn of the evil nature of their mercenary and treacherous leaders and can free themselves of the trap of imperialism and its puppets. Therefore, the deceived members of the minigroups affilitated to the Zionist, Aflaqite gang should surrender to the powerful forces of the Islamic revolution before the wrath of God and our Muslim and revolutionary befalls them. Otherwise, their fate will be no different than that of the hypocrites [Mojahedin-e khalq] and those traitors and others who have waged war against Islam.

Clashes in Kordestan Reported

GF161844 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian 1500 GMT 16 Jun 83

[Text] According to the Free Voice of Iran correspondent in Kordestan, last Saturday evening the Rastegari Peshmarga Kurdish fighters in Owraman region ambushed one truck between the villages of (Jalali) and (Darakeh) and killed 13 revolution guards. Our correspondent reports that at 2000 an automobile of the Revolution Guards that was returning from a patrol in (Kasil)

region was ambushed by the Restegari Kurdish fighters and in one brief skirmish, all the crew in the truck were killed. Among those killed was Nabiollah Kohestani, the local commander, and among the gaurds killed were 'ali Habibi, Ashbar Mirza'i, Azer Golchi, Sultani, and Abutaleb.

Foreign Minister Reveives PDRY Counterpart
LD162103 Tehran IRNA in English 1949 GMT 16 Jun 83

[Text] Tehran, 16 Jun IRNA — Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz Ad-Dali, Foreign Minister of People's Democratic Republic of Yemen (PDRY) heading a high-ranking political-economical delegation, arrived here today and was welcomed by Islamic Republic's Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati officials of the ministry and a number of ambassadors and officials from Arab embassies in Tehran.

Speaking to IRNA on the objectives of his delegation the PDRY Foreign Minister said that delegation aimed primarily at expansion of relations between the two countries and, exchange of views on the political developments in the region. The visit, he added, would provide an excellent opportunity for the delegation to witness the outstanding achievements of the islamic revolution.

Later Velayati, commenting on this visit said that it would strengthen the ties between the two Muslim countries of Iran and Yemen. The issues of mutual interest and, the Zionist plots (?against) the regional countries would be discussed, he added.

Referring to the ignominous Lebanon-Zionist accord, Velayati said that this was a stride towards Zionist domination in the region not only to the detriment of the Muslims but of the entire Arab world.

Deaths of Al-Hakim Family Members Reported
GF170834 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 17 Jun 83

[Text] IRNA quoting a report it has received from the office of the Supreme Revolutionary Council of Iraq said that all indications are that the Zionist Iraqi regime has martyred six members of the family of the late grand Ayatullah al-Hakim. This crime follows the arrest of more than 90 scholars, Friday imams, and a number of Al-Hakim's relatives.

The person in charge of the office of the Supreme Revolutionary Council of Iraq while talking with the IRNA correspondent, added that three sons of the late grand Ayatullah Al-Hakim were among these revered martyrs who are the latest victims of the self-seeking Iraqi regime.

It should be noted that after the martyrdom of Sayyid Muhammad Baqir as-Sadr and his scholarly sister, Bint al-Huda, the Saddam regime has once again expressed its anger against the steadfast and irreconcilable religious figures in Iraq by martyring six members of the An-Najaf mystical school.

Former Prime Minister Mehdi Bazargan Arrested
GF161618 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 16 Jun 83

[Text] There is a strong rumor in Tehran that the former prime minister of the Khomeyni regime, Mehdi Bazargan, was arrested while he was intending to leave the country and has been transferred to one of the prisons of the regime. Other reports say that he has been detained in a house.

Tudeh Party Associates Reportedly Arrested
GF161459 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 16 Jun 83

[Text] Reports received indicate that a number of theater and cinema workers in Iran have been arrested for association with the Tudeh Party. The names of those arrested have been announced as follows: Mohammad (?Ushkohi); Mohammad 'ali Ja'fari; and (?Khanamo'i). The poets Hoshang Ettehaj and Siyavosh Kesra'i are also among those arrested.

Ardabili's Tokyo Press Conference Reported
GF161824 Tehran IRNA in English 1640 GMT 16 Jun 83

[Text] Tokyo, June 16, IRNA — Both Iran and Japan are interested infurther development of mutual relations, said the Iranian Foreign Affairs Ministry deputy, Hoseyn Kazempur Ardabili in a press conference here today.

Kazempur Ardabili who arrived here last Tuesday for talks with Japanese officials, further told reporters that at the end of official negotiations with Japanese officials, both sides emphasised strengthening of relations between Iran and Japan.

The Iranian Foreign Affairs Ministry deputy for international and economic affairs, said the Islamic Republic of Iran attached special importance of its relations with Japan and was willing to cooperate with Japan in political, economic cultural and technical fields. The main principle of the Islamic Republic foreign policy "Neither West nor East," meant that Iran wanted to have normal and friendly relations with all non-hostile countries, he added. The principle further illustrated rejection of any foreign domination, he added.

As for the 33-month-old Iraqi-imposed war he said Iran rejected the idea of temporary cease-fire. He further added that although the Islamic Republic of Iran needed peace for its reconstruction, such temporary solutions would not be conducive to any reasonable resolution of the problems in the long run.

He also reiterated the three conditions set forward by the Islamic Republic Government of Iran for ending the war, namely, return of the aggressor to pre-war borders, payment of war reparations and condemnations of the aggressor. The Iranian forces, he pointed out, would continue their resistance and defense until fulfillment of these conditions.

Commenting on contamination of the Persian Gulf waters caused by oil slick resulted from Iraqi attack on Iranian offshore oil wells

early last March, he said that the objective of the Iraqi regime behind such attacks was causing damage on other Persian Gulf state. As for capping the oil wells, he said that once Iran tried to do so and gave 11 martyrs. However, he added, it would not undertake such acts until it is assured about security of the region.

Kazempur Ardabili, who is heading the Iranian delegation, has held talks with his Japanese counterpart, Moriyuki Mutomo. He is scheduled to hold talks with Japanese foreign minister, Shintaro Abe, Friday morning. The Iranian delegation is expected to return to Tehran next Sunday.

'Propaganda Plots' by 'World Oppressors' Assessed

GF161557 Tehran International Service in Turkish 1830 GMT 15 Jun 83

[From the "What Are Foreign Radios Saying?" program]

[Text] In the name of Almighty God we open our weekly program entitled "What Are Foreign Radios Saying?" by greeting you all and wishing success to you in all your auspicious endeavors. In tonight's cast we shall endeavor to draw your attention to the propaganda plots hatched by world oppressors to mislead world opinion on the Islamic Republic's "Neither East nor West" policy.

Both in and outside Iran, the Islamic Republic has always acted in accordance with the Islamic principle of "Neither East nor West." The question of an Islamic Government in Iran is about to be completed and put into effect by concerned legal organs within the framework of global Islamic laws and principles. The Majlis is an assembly that drafts and passes bills compatible with Islam. Ever since they have been set up, the (?Supreme Judicial Council), which is the legislative organ, and the government, which is the executive organ, have been endeavoring to realize within Iran the principle of Neither West nor East. But Only the Islamic Republic, which is one of the most noble principles of the Muslim Iranian people.

Realizing such a principle and putting it into effect is not as easy as it seems. This is due to the fact that the principle of "Neither East nor West" is tantamount to demanding real independence and liberation. It means rejecting and standing against every kind of oppression, aggression, foreign interference and violence. It does not accept Zionism and it is strongly opposed to racism. It always knows itself as siding with the poor and the oppressed peoples of the world and as supporting their Islamic objectives.

The strategic importance, wide-ranging responsibility and meaning of this principle and the Islamic Republic's determination to act within its framework have made it the target of a major offensive launched by the propaganda organs of Eastern and Western imperialism since it first appeared on the scene. We can study the propaganda move made by the Western world — a move which aimed at forcing this principle off its course — on the basis of three mainlines. The first is prior to the arrest of the Central Committee members of the crushed Communist Tudeh Party. The second is after the arrest of the Central Committee members of the Communist Tudeh Party. And the third is after their open confession of spying in favor of Eastern imperialism.

The propaganda line pursued by Western propaganda organs prior to the arrest of the Central Committee members of the crushed Communist Tudeh Party with a view to forcing the Islamic Republic of Iran to deviate from the policy of "Neither East nor West" was an established approach through which they wished to mislead world opinion on this principle of the Islamic Republic and create a different impression on it. They tried to create the view that the Islamic Republic of Iran was gradually moving in camera into the lap of the communist Eastern bloc and that the Kremlin agents were becoming more effective in many of the Islamic Republic's important sectors and organs, seizing more control every passing day.

The objective behind creating such a picture was to create doubt over the principle heeded by the Islamic Republic of Iran and over the Islamic Republic's [word indistinct] stand against U.S. imperialism. In fact, Cologne radio said the following on 30 May last year:

The Tudeh Party and the communists have infiltrated government organs.

The propaganda that the communists had infiltrated government organs first began at the time when the Muslim students occupied the U.S. espionage center in Tehran and captured the American spies together with their espionage equipment. This revolutionary Islamic movement, which is unequalled throughout the world, emerged from the Islamic Republic's concept of "Neither East nor West." This propaganda of Western mouthpieces continued until the [word indistinct] of the Central Committee members of the crushed Communist Tudeh Party. Numerous assessments and commentaries were aired by Western radios. On 31 July 1981, the BBC said the following:

Iran is moving into the lap of the Soviet Union.

The American radio described Iran as being beset at that time by:

War, vengence and the communists who wanted to destroy Iran.

Undoubtedly, the Islamic Republic's success in realizing the principle of "Neither East nor West" led the West into doubt and hesitation. This doubt was clearly obvious in the commentaries aired by Western radios. The BBC said the following on 1 April 1982:

Irrespective of Ayatollah Khomeyni's (?support) for the Islamic Government, he knows that it has to lean toward the West; otherwise it will fall into the arms of the Soviet Union.

The first phase of the West's three-pronged propaganda conspiracy hatched against the Islamic Republic's policy of "Neither East nor West" ended wit the arrest of the Central Committee members of the Communist Tudeh Party for their espionage activities on behalf of the KGB. And, after a period of confusion, Western propagandists organized a new propaganda framework aimed at dishonoring the noble principle heeded by the Islamic Republic of Iran. However, due to the confusion referred to

earlier, numerous conflicting reports and commentaries were aired during this time.

Everyone commented on the arrest of the Communist Tudeh Party members in a different way. Some said that the authorities in the Kremlin and those of the Islamic Republic had reached a secret agreement. Others said the opposite. At that time we discussed this issue in detail. Later, however, we observed that the propaganda mothpieces of the East and the West moved to pull themselves together and organize their propaganda against the Islamic Republic. Here is what Moscow radio said on 1 June:

The Iranian Revolution, which is based on populist support, has ended the imperialist system in Iran. However, the U.S. Administration, Britain and other Western countries are trying to retrieve part of what they have lost in Iran.

Moscow, which became strongly disturbed by the determination and revolutionary stance of the Islamic Republic of Iran, preferred to overlook the open confessions made by the Central Committee members of the crushed Tudeh Party and began to claim that the Islamic Republic of Iran was drawing closer to the West and to U.S. imperialism. Moscow radio said the following on 7 June:

It has been understood from ('documents) that an aligned group in Iran has come into secret contact on a number of issues.

Of course, due to the fact that the propagandists in Moscow have no evidence in hand to confirm their ridiculous and unfounded claim they are attributing it to documents in hand. The West on the other hand, which cooperates with the East in the propaganda assault against Islam and the Islamic Republic of Iran, has also claimed that the Islamic Republic has begun approaching the West. In harmony with Moscow, the BBC said in its cast on 7 June:

The needs of Iran have forced the Islamic regime to change its policy toward the West.

As for the Zionist Israeli regime's radio, it said the following on 10 May:

With the arrest of the Tudeh Party members, Iran's contacts and relations with the United States have become more intensified.

Western imperialism is creating major displays with a view to intensifying this propaganda campaign. Here is what one of the Western radios said on 1 June:

According to the *HERALD TRIBUNE* published in the United States, the foreign ministers of Britain, the United States, Canada, Italy, France, Japan and the FRG have agreed to make a favorable response to the persistent desire of the Islamic Republic to improve its relations with the West. After their talks over dinner, the foreign ministers of the seven countries agreed that the Islamic Republic has recently launched an intensive move to free itself from isolation.

An interesting point is that every move endangering the interests of the West has been described by the West as Iran's fall into the arms of the East. On the other hand, every move endangering the interests of the East has been described as Iran's turn toward the West. However, how is it now that both Eastern imperialism and Western imperialism have united on the view that Iran — which pursues the policy of "Neither East nor West" — is moving toward the West? The imperialist attack on Iran's policy of "Neither East not West" of is such proportion that Eastern imperialism and Western imperialism — which have been endeavoring to crush it individually — have united to force the "Neither East nor West" movement of the Muslim Iranian people off its course. However, the Islamic Republic of Iran is resisting against all these conspiracies with all its might and moving in the direction of realizing this slogan.